IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Atty Ref.: 2551-24

MAERTENS, et al.

Group: 1643

Application No.: 08/928,757

Examiner: Zeman

Filed: September 12, 1997

For:

PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE

PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC USE

99 120256

December 2, 1999

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated July 2, 1999, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested; the period for response having been extended up to and including December 2, 1999, by submission of the requisite petition and fee, attached.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows.

-juβ D) 49. (Amended) A vaccine composition [obtained by immunizing a mammal with]

comprising an effective amount of: